

# USDA NEWS

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## **Conservation Program Signup Deadline Nearing**

*Colchester, VT...* Land owners who wish to be considered for funding under USDA's Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) have until October 3, 2005 to submit their applications for inclusion in the next round of ranking to determine program acceptance for FY 2006 Funding.

A voluntary program for farmers under the 2002 Farm Bill, EQIP promotes agricultural production and environmental quality as compatible national goals. EQIP helps reimburse farmers for installing conservation practices to improve animal waste management, grazing land, soil erosion and sediment control, and other environmental concerns.

EQIP is administered by USDA's Natural Resources Conservation Service.

Applications may be submitted to a NRCS field office, located at the local USDA Service Center.

For more information, contact your local NRCS Office or Dave Hoyt, Assistant State Conservationist for Programs at 802 951-6795.